Corruption in the Country

362. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in Punjab Kesari, Delhi under the heading "Bharat Vishwa Ke Sabse Bhrasht Deshon Mein Se Ek", on 27th October, 1999; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and what steps government have taken or purpose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTEMNT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government its fully alive and committed to the need to eradicate corruption from public life. A three pronged strategy, i.e. preventive, surveillance/detection and deterrent punitive action has been adopted and efforts in this regard have been considerably stepped up of late.

Sale of Sub-Standard Items by Kendriya Bhandar

363. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kendriya Bhandar has become dumping ground for not so popular and branded varieties of photocopier papers, fax, photocopier, computers etc. and the same are being approved one after the other and the rates are higher than in the open market;

(b) if so, the names of the photocopier papers, fax, photocopier, computers in sale in the Kendriya Bhandar for the last three years and the details of those introduced alongwith dates of introduction, rates, brand names and sales thereof, brand-wise, monthwise; and

(c) the steps taken to weed out less popular and not reputed brands forthwith?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Kendriya Bhandar procures photocopier papers in original mill

pack of leading manufactuers like Balarpur, J.K. ITC, Century, etc. Similarly, leading brands of fax, photocopiers, computers etc. are available on its rate contract, which are procured only against customers' demands. Fair competition among different brands of products sold by Kendriya Bhandar ensures reasonableness of their rates.

A statement showing details of photocopier papers, photocopiers, fax, computers etc. on sale in Kendriya Bhandar is enclosed. (*See* below).

(c) Slow moving items/brands (which is the yardstick of unpopularly) are identified and weeded out from time to time.

Statement

S. No.	Supplier Name	Period of registration	Name of items	Number of items(approx.)	Average monthly sale for year 1998-99* (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	MODI Xerox	More than 9 Years	Copier, Fax and Printers	150 Models	130
2.	Cannon India Pvt.Ltd.	More than 5 years	Copier & Fax	75 Models	33
3.	Richo India Ltd.	More than 5 Years	Copier & Fax	60 Models	16
4.	Gestetner	More than 5 Years	Digital Copier and Copy Printer	40 Models	16
5.	Pioneer (Sharp)	More than 2 Years	Fax	10 Models	2
6.	Godrej-Panasonic	More than 14 years	Fax	10 Models	5
7.	Reliance Mktg.	More than 10 years	Compaq & Vintron Computers	600 including Peripheral and Accessories	42
8.	Leading Edge	More than 4 years	HCL & HP Computers	600 including Peripheral and Accessories	33

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Computer Ware	More than 4 years	Wipro Computers	400 including Peripheral and Accessories	22
10.	Icon Mktg.	More than 3 years	IBM & Apple Computers	1000 including Peripheral and Accessories	23
11.	Modi Xerox	More than 10 years	Modi Brand Copier Paper	30 brand & Size	40
12.	Usha Fertilizers	-do-	J.K. Photo-copier	7 brand & Size	8
13.	M. C. Paper	-do-	Exact copier Paper	4 sizes	8
14.	Gateway Specialities	Since Sept. 1996	Gateway copier paper	4 sizes	3
15.	Swaroop Paper	Since Jan, 1996	Century Copier Paper	4 Sizes	3
16.	P. K. Paper	Since Jan, 98	ITC Bhadrachal-am Copier Paper	4 sizes	2
17.	Raj Dealer & Distributor	Since Sept. 1996 (New Distributor registered in Oct., 98)	Andhra Paper Copier	4	2
18.	KCT (CS Bros)	Since Sept., 96	Globus Magan Copier	4 sizes	4

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Kharbanda Paper	More than 7 Years	Ballarpur Sunshine/ 3 Acs Copier paper	8 brand & size	2

NOTE (1) Figures for previous two years viz., 1996-97 and 1997-98 are not readily available in Kendriya Bhandar

(2) As the rates of above items Keep changing from time to time it is not practicable to indicate their rates.

Proposal to Break Links with SCI

364. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC propose to break its links with Shipping Corporation of India and other shipping companies over Rs. 50 crores payments being demanded from the oil major for providing offshore service vessels;

(b) if so, the details of outstanding amounts demanded by each of the Shipping Company; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by Government to pay the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) ONGC has no proposal to break its links with Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) or any other shipping company because of any monetary disputes.

(c) An Inter-Ministerial High Level Working Group has been set up on 9.8.99 to consider and make suitable recommendations for settlement of outstanding issues between ONGC and Shipping Companies, viz., determination of compensation in lieu of capital recovery factor beyond 12 years period for each OSVs, fixation of pre-commissioning expenses of SCI vessels, payment of interest and also certain issues requiring interpretation of some of the recommendations of an earlier Committee. Further action will be taken based on the recommendations of this Working Group.

LNG Purchase Contract

365. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any "take or pay" clause in the LNG purchase contract between the Qatar based Ras gas and petronet LNG Ltd.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?